Manga: Kirihito Ayamura

Original Work: Nahuse

Character Designer: Gin

Environment Artist: yish

Mechanical Designer: cell

VOLUME

002

REBUILD WORLD

REBUILD WORLD VOLUME.TWO

REBUILD WORLD

Manga: Kirihito Ayamura
Character Designer: Gin

Original Work: Nahuse
Environment Artist: yish
Mechanical Designer: cell

VOLUME 002

VOLUME

002

003
Chapter 5

035
Chapter 6

059
Chapter 7

093
Chapter 8

127
Chapter 9

159
Extras

The advanced civilization that once dominated the world crumbled to ruins long ago. As ages pass, the survivors have begun piecing together the fragments of its wisdom and glory as they struggle to rebuild their world.

REBUILD WORLD VOLUME.TWO

MAY I PERFORM DIVERSE OPERATIONS ON YOU...

...WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT OR EXPLANATION...

Chapter 5

...TO FACILITATE MORE SOPHISTICATED SUPPORT?

...

YES.

WHEW.

ストン

COME HERE, AKIRA.

...

THANKS.

DUNNO WHAT ALL THAT MEANT.

BUT I'D ALREADY DECIDED TO STRIKE A DEAL WITH ALPHA.

DON'T WORRY- YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH ME.

SO IT'S ALL GOOD.

TRY TALKING TO ME IN YOUR MIND.

OKAY.

WHAT'S THAT?

LIKE TELEPATHY.

WITH OUR CONTRACT, I CAN NOW OFFER YOU A BROADER RANGE OF SUPPORT.

WITH TRAINING, YOU'LL HAVE LONG CONVERSATIONS INSTANTANEOUSLY.

QUICK, ACCURATE COMMUNICATION IS CRUCIAL IN COMBAT.

WOW!

ALPHA...?

YES, AKIRA?

TELEPATHY LETS YOU SEND YOUR THOUGHTS. IT'S INVALUABLE.

!

NEXT, FIRING SUPPORT.

?!

WHICH ONE?

AIM FOR THAT PEBBLE A HUNDRED METERS AWAY.

ALPHA?! WHAT'D YOU DO?! MY EYE-SIGHT'S ALL WEIRD!

I AUG-MENTED YOUR VISION WITH NEW FEATURES.

SEE THE PEBBLE OUTLINED IN RED? TARGET IT.

YOU ZOOMED IN.

THE ROCK GOT CLOSER?

FOCUS ON WHAT'S INSIDE THE GREEN BORDER.

PING!!!

I MISSED.

THE RECOIL THREW OFF YOUR AIM.

GOT IT.

ALIGN IT WITH YOUR TARGET, AND YOU'LL LIKELY HIT YOUR MARK.

THE BLUE LINE IS YOUR PREDICTED TRAJECTORY.

BLAM!!!

OKAY.

REMEMBER, YOU'LL BE SHOOTING MON-STERS.

AIM MORE CAREFULLY.

IF YOU SAY SO.

UH-UH. IT WAS MORE THAN THAT. I CAN TELL.

OH WELL.

SO, DO YOU UNDERSTAND TELEPATHY AND AUGMENTED VISION NOW?

I CAN DO EVEN MORE FOR YOU, BUT THAT WILL COME LATER.

WHAT? ALL I DID WAS BUY SOME GEAR FROM HER!

...YOU WERE ALL OVER THE SHOPKEEPER WHO GAVE YOU THAT OUTFIT. IS SHE YOUR TYPE?

BY THE WAY...

YOUR PAYMENT WILL BE A FORTUNE IN RELICS.

BLAM

I WANT YOU TO CONQUER AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS RUIN FOR ME.

NOW, LET'S REVIEW OUR CONTRACT.

I KNOW, I KNOW.

DON'T FORGET THAT.

AND MY FLAWLESS SUPPORT IS AN ADVANCE ON IT.

I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL. TELL ME WHAT I NEED TO KNOW WHEN I NEED TO KNOW.

QUES-TIONS?

ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN?

ALL RIGHT, THEN.

I'LL EXPLAIN OUR IMMEDIATE PLANS, INCLUDING YOUR TRAINING.

LEARNING TO READ AND WRITE, FOR A START.

YOU'LL SPEND THE REST OF YOUR TIME TRAINING OR STUDYING.

WE'LL MAKE ONE TRIP INTO THE RUINS PER WEEK.

I'LL GIVE YOU MY FULL SUPPORT UNTIL YOUR JOB IS DONE.

SO TRY TO KEEP UP, AKIRA.

KREEK

OH, YEAH. MY NAME'S MESSED UP ON MY HUNTER ID, RIGHT?

BUT I CAN READ IT.

GUESS THAT MEANS I'M LEARN-ING.

Eastern League of Governing Corporations Certifie
Class-Three Special Laborer
AJIRA

A-J-I-R-A...

WHO'S "AJIRA" ?!

BLAM BLAM

ATTACK

PING

PING

LET'S MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PHASE.

YOU TAUGHT ME A TON, DOWN TO HOW MUCH PRESSURE TO PUT ON MY BIG TOES.

YOU'RE NO AMATEUR ANYMORE, I SEE.

NICE GOING. I'M IMPRESSED.

TAKE OFF

A WEAPON DOG?!

SWISH

SLASH

GRRR

KRRR

KRRR

THUD

THUD

THUD

THUD

RA-TA-TA-TA-TA-TA-

AAAA-AAH!

RELAX.

IT'S JUST AN IMAGE, LIKE ME.

FWMP

ヘタッ!!

ドドド!!!

WHOA!

YOU NEED TO GET USED TO SUDDEN ENCOUNTERS.

!

IF YOU PANIC, YOU'LL DIE JUST LIKE THIS IMAGE OF YOU.

SHOOT PRECISELY AT ITS WEAKEST POINTS.

UNLESS YOU WANT THIS TO BECOME REALITY...

ASSUME IF YOU MISS, YOU DIE.

AT LEAST DISABLE IT, OR ITS COUNTER-ATTACK WILL KILL YOU.

...TAKE YOUR TRAINING SERIOUSLY.

SOMEONE IS HEADED THIS WAY.

AKIRA, PRACTICE IS OVER.

PANT PANT

HUNTERS? THEY'RE NOT AFTER ME AGAIN, ARE THEY?

TWO HUNTERS, BOTH WOMEN.

IF THEY TURN OUT TO BE HOSTILE...

...WE WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THEM HERE.

BUT WE SHOULD HEAD THERE TOO, JUST IN CASE.

I THINK THEY'RE JUST EN ROUTE TO THE KUZUSU-HARA TOWN RUINS.

VROOOOOM

I'M FINE, ELENA. DON'T WORRY.

SARA, HOW DO YOU FEEL?

...

WE PICKED A SAFER RUIN, JUST IN CASE.

IF ALL GOES WELL, MY NANOMACHINE SUPPLY SHOULD HOLD OUT.

REALLY? THE NANOMACHINE RESERVES IN HER CHEST LOOK AWFULLY LOW.

AND WITH HER AUGMENTATIONS, SHE NEEDS THEM FOR LIFE SUPPORT.

RMBL RMBL

MONEY'S TIGHT, BUT WHAT WILL WE DO WITHOUT YOUR SCANNERS?

IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, I'LL SELL MY GEAR TO BUY YOU A REFILL— WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.

I KNOW, SARA.

VRRRM

ELENA, WE SHOULD BANK ON THOSE RUMORS BEING TRUE.

MORE HUNTERS?

WHY'S THIS PLACE SO CROWD-ED?

AKIRA, LET'S MOVE.

THAT "KID FROM THE SLUMS" IS ME, ISN'T IT?

THESE HUNTERS MUST HAVE BOUGHT THE STORY.

RUMOR HAS IT SOME KID FROM THE SLUMS BROUGHT BACK VALUABLE RELICS.

?!

TIME TO MOVE AGAIN.

AGAIN ?!

THIS AREA IS SAFER, THOUGH IT'S BEEN PICKED CLEAN.

SO IF A CHILD CAN FIND NEW GOODS HERE, MANY HUNTERS WILL FIND IT WORTH A SECOND LOOK.

DO HUNTERS REALLY GO FOR GOSSIP LIKE THAT?

ALPHA, WHAT'S GOING ON NOW?

MOST OF THE HUNTERS ARE LEAVING.

I GUESS THEY'RE REALIZING IT WAS JUST A RUMOR AND GIVING UP.

REALLY? I HOPE WE DON'T RUN INTO THEM— I'M SICK OF FIGHTING HUNTERS.

THEY'RE CAPABLE HUNTERS, AND THEY'LL PICK UP YOUR TRAIL ANY MINUTE NOW.

BUT THOSE TWO WOMEN ARE STILL AROUND.

THEY CAN'T MAKE RATIONAL DECISIONS.

THE COLOR-LESS FOG IS THICKENING, AND OTHER HUNTERS HAVE STARTED PULLING OUT.

BUT THEY'RE TRYING TO PRESS ON.

HUH, I SEE.

HOW CAN YOU TELL?

BUT THEY MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE BEFORE LONG.

SAY, ALPHA...

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY *"COLOR-LESS FOG"*?

SEE THAT HAZE IN THE DISTANCE?

THE COLOR-LESS FOG CAUSES THAT.

WHEN IT GETS THICK, IT BLOCKS WIRELESS COMMUNICATION, AND EVEN SOUND AND SMELL.

SO BOTH ANIMALS AND MACHINES HAVE A MUCH HARDER TIME PERCEIVING THEIR SURROUNDINGS.

FIREARMS LOSE POWER, RANGE, AND ACCURACY.

WHEN THE FOG IS DENSE ENOUGH, YOU CAN TRACK BULLETS WITH THE NAKED EYE.

WORST OF ALL, MY SCANNING TAKES A HUGE HIT.

YOU MIGHT EVEN SPOT MONSTERS BEFORE I DO.

IF THAT HAPPENS, YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT SURVIVING.

EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THE FOG, SO DON'T FORGET.

SURE.

RMMMBL

CRASH

ALPHA! WHAT'S THAT?

HM?

THEN LET'S GET OUT OF HERE WHILE WE CAN.

IT'S HEADED TOWARD THOSE WOMEN FROM EARLIER.

A MONSTER, AND A BIG ONE.

UGH. DID ALL THOSE HUNTERS STIR IT UP?

GOOD IDEA.

SARA, WE CAN'T KEEP GOING.

ALL RIGHT.

SOR-RY.

I CAN'T SCAN NEARLY AS FAR RIGHT NOW.

WE SHOULD HAVE PULLED OUT SOONER.

ROAAAA

!!!

RATATATA

DO DO DO BAM

DON'T WORRY.

WE'LL JUST BE CAREFUL ON OUR WAY HOME.

GUN-FIRE ?!

JUST A SEC!

EIGHT HUNTERS AND ONE MONSTER!

ELENA, CAN YOU DETECT ANY-THING?

ゴゴゴ RMMMBLゴ

THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

WHY NOW, OF ALL TIMES?!

THEY'LL NEVER BRING IT DOWN LIKE THAT!

ARE THEY NUTS?! THEY'RE JUST MAKING IT MAD!

I JUST NEED ONE SHOT!

VRMMMMMM

SARA! ARE YOU SURE ?!

CHAK ナニ!!

WE'LL GET CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE IF WE SIT HERE. I'LL TAKE IT OUT FOR THEM!

CLEAR THE WAY!

FWISH

ズバッ

ズバッ

KLUMP

BULL'S-EYE!

WHAM THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD

THEY DROPPED- NO, THREW SOMETHING?

CLATTER

CLANK

A GRENADE ?!
CLUNK

ELENA!

KLOK

KLOK

FWOOOSH

NGH...

BWIIIOOOIOOSHH

Chapter 6

SARA ...

SQUEEZE

ELENA... YOU CAME TO SEE ME.

WSSSH

WSSSH

I HEARD EASTERN MEDICINE CAN CONTROL YOUR CONDITION WITH NANO-MACHINES.

THEY SHOULD STRENGTHEN YOU AT THE CELLULAR LEVEL.

I PROMISE I'LL GET YOU THAT TREATMENT.

WOW, YOU'VE ALREADY RECOVERED SO MUCH! I GUESS THAT'S EASTERN TECH FOR YOU.

IT WAS WORTH THE CRAZY HIGH MEDICAL FEES.

THEY TURNED MY CHEST INTO NANO-MACHINE STORAGE.

I'D NEED MORE BODY MODIFI-CATIONS TO USE EXTERNAL CARTRIDGES.

!

IN FACT, THERE SEEMS TO BE MORE OF YOU THAN I REMEMBER. WAS THAT A BONUS?

STARE じーっ

THAT'S A *GREAT* EXCUSE.

JEEZ...

ゴゴゴ

?!

SARA...?!

THAT GRENADE SENT US FLYING!

SARA!

ELENA?!

CHAK

THUD

THUD

THUD

THUD

TA TA TA

HEY, YOU OUT THERE!

ELENA? WHERE'S ELENA?!

DROP YOUR WEAPONS AND COME OUT!

UNLESS YOU WANT HER DEAD!

FORGET ABOUT ME AND SHOOT THESE GUYS!

SARA! DON'T LISTEN TO THEM!

COME ON OUT!

DON'T YOU WANNA SAVE HER?!

HEY! YOU HERE FOR THE SAME REASON WE ARE? WASTING TIME ON RUMORS ABOUT A SLUM KID FINDING RELICS?

IF I IGNORE ELENA, I CAN KILL THEM ALL.

BUT THEY'LL KILL HER FIRST!

I HAVE TO SAVE ELENA.

BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO?

WE CAN'T GO HOME EMPTY-HANDED, SO WE'RE GONNA HELP OUR-SELVES TO YOUR GEAR.

WE'LL SPARE YOUR LIVES, SO DROP YOUR WEAPONS AND COME OUT.

ENOUGH WAIT-ING.

SLAM

I'M GONNA KILL HER.

YANK

SLASH

PRESS

NGH...!

WAIT!

SARA...

NO...

THIS WILL WORK. THEY'RE OFF THEIR GUARD.

I'M STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE THEM OUT BARE-HANDED IF I GET CLOSE.

POWERED SUIT?

CHAK

WAIT! TAKE OFF YOUR POWERED SUIT!

HE THINKS MY BODY ARMOR IS A POWERED SUIT?

FINE.

IT MUST BE PRETTY HIGH-END IF YOU CAN WALK AROUND AFTER EATING A GRENADE.

KID

IF HE DOESN'T REALIZE I'M AUGMENTED...

GETTING BEATEN TO DEATH WITH AMPED-UP STRENGTH ISN'T MY IDEA OF FUN.

SO STRIP DOWN, NICE AND SLOW.

...I'M IN LUCK.

!
SHE LOOKS LIKE A MAN! BWA HA HA!
WHAT?! SHE'S FLAT AS A BOARD!

YOU SHUT UP!

SMACK

SHUT UP!

YOU HAVE NO CLUE WHAT SARA'S-

ELENA ...!

GOOD. NOW SLOWLY WALK TOWARD ME.

I TOOK IT OFF.

SLASH
SLAM

THUMP

AAA-AAA-AAH!

HEY! BUBAHA!

SHE'S GOT NANO-MACHINE AUGMENTS.

SHE DOESN'T NEED GEAR TO HIT AS HARD AS SOMEONE IN A POWERED SUIT.

I WOULDN'T GET HANDSY WITH HER, UNLESS YOU WANT YOUR BITS TORN OFF.

SARA!

SWAP

HER INJURIES WILL BURN UP ALL HER NANO-MACHINES.

SHE'S IN NO SHAPE TO FIGHT.

CHAK

SORRY. I SCREWED UP...

THE COLOR-LESS FOG'S GETTING BAD.

KEEP YOUR PLAYTIME SHORT.

GWAHA HAHAHA

GASP

AN ATTACK ?!

?!

TWIP

EEP!

THUMP

CLATTER

YOU BITCHES! SO THERE'S MORE OF YOU OUT—

CHAK

HIRATA

TATA

TA

KA-

BLAM

RA TA TA T

THREE DEAD, FIVE TO GO.

ALPHA, HOW MANY LEFT?

ALPHA, HOW MANY LEFT?

THREE DEAD, FIVE TO GO.

GET MOVING, AKIRA.

Chapter 7

WE'LL KEEP SNIPING FROM OUTSIDE OF THEIR DETECTION RANGE.

AND THEY'LL ***NEVER*** FIND YOU IF YOU FIRE FROM THE POSITIONS I TELL YOU TO.

CHK

THEY'LL HAVE A HARD TIME SPOTTING YOU IN THE COLORLESS FOG.

H'SUDE

GET OUT HERE!

DAMN IT! WHERE'D THOSE SHOTS COME FROM?!

THEY MIGHT AS WELL BE FIGHTING BLINDFOLDED.

SLIDE!!

WAAA-AAAH!

SLAM

WITH MY HELP, EVEN YOU CAN WIN THIS.

IF THEY CATCH YOU, YOU'RE DEAD, SO KEEP FOLLOWING MY DIREC-TIONS.

GAA-AAH!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

...

ALPHA, WHERE'S MY NEXT SNIPING SPOT?

SOLK

ALPHA?

?

I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH ALTRUISM.

NOT AT ALL.

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE THAT FOR A WHILE.

BUT WHAT?

BUT...

DID HELPING THOSE WOMEN BOTHER YOU *THAT* MUCH?

YOU AGREED TO DO A JOB FOR ME.

AND YOU'RE NOT THAT TOUGH.

YOU MUST NOT DIE BEFORE YOU FULFILL YOUR END OF OUR BARGAIN.

BUT YOU STILL EXPOSED YOURSELF TO MORTAL PERIL...

...TO HELP A PAIR OF TOTAL STRANGERS.

I JUST WONDERED IF THAT WAS ***REALLY*** NECESSARY.

YES, MA'AM.

I'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF YOU DIE ON ME.

DIDN'T I...

...MAKE THAT...

...CLEAR?

DROP

ALPHA'S HELP IS JUST AN ADVANCE ON MY JOB.

IF I DIE, IT'D BE LIKE RUNNING OFF WITH HER MONEY.

RATATATA

BLAM

OH WELL. LET'S FINISH UP HERE BEFORE THE COLORLESS FOG LIFTS.

YUP.

THAT THE LAST ONE?

FIRST, WILL YOU AT LEAST TELL ME WHY YOU WANTED TO RESCUE THEM?

WHAT SUDDENLY CHANGED YOUR MIND?

SORRY FOR FORCING YOU TO BACK ME UP ON THAT.

LET'S GO HOME.

...

IF I LEAVE THOSE GUYS HANGING AROUND THE RUINS, NEXT TIME THEY MIGHT ATTACK ME, RIGHT?

BETTER TO KILL 'EM NOW WHEN I HAVE THE CHANCE.

...

I FIGURED HELPING THOSE WOMEN MIGHT GIVE MY LUCK A BOOST.

BECAUSE I USED IT ALL UP ON MEETING YOU.

PLUS, YOU SAID I'M ALL OUT OF GOOD LUCK, REMEMBER?

I SEE. LET'S GO, THEN.

SURE.

AKIRA DIDN'T CARE WHEN I TOLD HIM A MONSTER WAS ATTACKING THEM.

BUT HIS ATTITUDE CHANGED AS SOON AS I MENTIONED THOSE MEN.

HE'S MAKING EXCUSES.

HE DIDN'T KILL THE MEN TO SAVE THOSE WOMEN!

HE SAVED THE WOMEN TO KILL THE MEN.

SLAUGHTERING THEM WAS ALWAYS HIS PLAN. HE ONLY NEEDED TO JUSTIFY IT.

I NEED TO MAKE SURE HE NEVER TURNS THOSE FEELINGS ON ME.

HE HAS INTENSE NEGATIVE EMOTIONS.

HOW ARE YOU, SARA?

MY NANO-MACHINES CLOSED THE WOUNDS, BUT I WON'T BE WALKING ANYWHERE.

THE GUNFIRE STOPPED...

IS IT OVER?

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

DASH

CAN I LOSE HER IF I RUN?

AKIRA.

ONE OF THE WOMEN YOU RESCUED IS FOLLOWING US.

!

?

S-T-A-Y ...

SKRITCH SKRITCH

SHE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT WALL, BUT SHE'LL CATCH UP EVENTUALLY.

DRUMMAGE

THIS'LL DO.

I NEED A WEIGHT. UH...

...A-W-A-Y.

STAY AWAY

WE'LL HAVE TO WORK ON YOUR HAND-WRITING.

HUH?

TT TT RS-L

TT TT RS-L

XOSS

!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HELPED US, RIGHT? THANK YOU!

WOULD YOU MIND GIVING US A HAND AGAIN?

MY FRIEND GOT SHOT AND CAN'T MOVE!

STAY AWAY

WHAT THE—?!

...

A NOTE AND A RIFLE CARTRIDGE. WAS THE CARTRIDGE FOR WEIGHT, OR A WARNING?

MEDI-CINE?

DO THEY WANT ME TO GIVE HER THIS?

RATTLE

TOSS

?

THANK YOU, ELENA. I'M FINE NOW.

THE MEDICINE WORKED, THEN. THANK GOODNESS.

THESE ARE HIGH-END RECOVERY CAPSULES.

WHO WOULD JUST GIVE THESE AWAY?

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT I PROMISE I'LL REPAY YOU!

KUGAMAYAMA CITY
A FEW DAYS LATER

THIS IS THE TENTH BATCH OF RELICS YOU'VE BROUGHT IN.

HOW SO?

WHAT? THEY MIS-SPELLED IT ON YOUR HUNTER ID?

WELL, TODAY'S YOUR CHANCE TO FIX IT.

MY NAME'S AKIRA.

RIGHT, AJIRA?!

THE MAP SAYS THAT'S THE PLACE.

THAT'S THE KUGAMA BUILDING, BUILT INTO THE WALLS— AN ECONOMIC WAYPOINT BETWEEN THE INNER AND OUTER CITIES.

IT'S A HUB FOR THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. LET'S GO IN.

SLIDE

TAKE THIS MAP AND CARD.

GO HERE AND SHOW THIS CARD TO THE STAFF. YOU'VE GOT SOME PAPERWORK TO FILL OUT.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

MAN. HARD TO BELIEVE YOU MADE IT.

WELL, TAKE CARE.

?

SURE.

GENETIC MODIFICATION. CYBORG BODIES.

HIGH-PERFORMANCE POWERED SUITS. NANOMACHINE AUGMENTATIONS.

THE HUNTERS HERE ARE A CUT ABOVE THE REST.

THIS IS THE HUNTER OFFICE.

THIS IS A HUNTER OFFICE TOO?

IT'S NOTHING LIKE THE ONES I'M USED TO.

YOU'VE ONLY BEEN TO SMALL BRANCHES.

THEY HAVE SURVIVED DEADLY RUINS TIME AND AGAIN...

...AND GAINED STRENGTH WORTH THE RISKS THEY RAN.

I WAS TOLD TO SHOW YOU THIS.

I MEAN, NO. MY NAME'S AKIRA, BUT IT GOT REGISTERED WRONG.

MY SINCERE APOLO-GIES.

I SEE. ARE YOU MR. AJIRA HIMSELF?

ER, YES.

CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION TO HUNTER RANK TEN.

WELL THEN, MR. AKIRA.

WASN'T I ALREADY A REAL HUNTER?

NO, SORRY TO SAY.

SHE MEANS YOU'RE FINALLY A REAL HUNTER, NOT JUST CALLING YOURSELF ONE.

"HUNTER RANK"? "TEN"?

THEY CAN ALSO TAKE CONFIDENTIAL JOBS AND RECEIVE MANY OTHER PRIVI-LEGES.

HIGH-RANKING HUNTERS CAN BUY GEAR FORBIDDEN TO LOWER RANKS.

BUT WHAT DID I DO TO EARN A PROMOTION?

YOU KEPT BRINGING IN RELICS. THAT IMPRESSED THEM.

AKIRA.

MR. AKIRA, YOU ARE REQUESTING A COR-RECTION TO YOUR REGISTERED NAME.

PLEASE REPEAT THE NAME YOU WISH TO REGISTER.

IT HELPS US FILL ANY BLANKS IN OUR RECORDS.

THIS PRO-CEDURE WILL UPGRADE YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS FROM PROVISIONAL TO PERMA-NENT.

MR. AKIRA.

WITH THAT IN MIND...

NAMES OFTEN REFLECT ONE'S FAMILY, BIRTHPLACE, NATIONALITY, CULTURE, STATUS, AND SO ON.

YOUR NAME IS AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION. YOU'LL USE IT TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF TO THE HUNTER OFFICE AND ANYONE ELSE YOU WORK WITH.

ARE YOU CERTAIN THAT YOU WISH TO REGISTER YOUR NAME...

...AS SIMPLY "AKIRA"?

NO, THERE IS ONE.

THAT NAME– AKIRA–IS ALL I'VE GOT.

NO ONE EVEN CALLS ME BY IT.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ON MY OWN.

I HAVE NO FAMILY. NOT EVEN A MEMORY.

MY NAME IS AKIRA.

PLEASE ENTER IT LIKE THAT.

AKIRA.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A RANK TEN HUNTER?

HONESTLY, IT HASN'T SUNK IN YET. I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU.

THAT CONCLUDES YOUR REGISTRATION. WE HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU, MR. AKIRA.

Bragging?

THAT'S RIGHT. MY SUPPORT MADE ALL THIS POSSIBLE.

STILL, BEFORE NOW, I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO PROVE WHO I WAS. THIS HUNTER ID IS MY FIRST STEP.

GOOD FOR YOU, AKIRA.

WHY ARE YOU INSIDE IT?

THIS IS AWK-WARD. COME BACK OUT.

I ALREADY TOOK THE LIBERTY OF REWRITING ITS SOFTWARE FROM SCRATCH TO FACILITATE MY SUPPORT.

THIS DATA TERMINAL YOU BOUGHT IS VITAL FOR HUNTING.

MAKE SURE YOU LEARN HOW TO USE IT.

SLOW DOWN! BRAIN OVER-LOAD!

YOU CAN DOWNLOAD MAPS OF RUINS AND EVEN–

ABSOLUTELY. THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO THE RUINS TOMORROW.

LOOK, I SPENT ALL MY MONEY ON THIS TERMINAL. IS THAT GONNA BE A PROBLEM?

CORPORA-TIONS AND THE HUNTER OFFICE ALSO POST JOB OFFERS THROUGH THEM.

BECAUSE THAT'S HOW HUNTERS SHARE AND MARKET INFO ABOUT RUINS AND MONSTERS.

NOW, WHY ARE TERMINALS SO IMPOR-TANT?

FWSH

THIS TIME, YOU'LL BE LEARNING TO NAVIGATE WITHOUT ME SCOUTING FOR YOU.

OH, AND YOUR MARKSMANSHIP HAS IMPROVED, SO I'M ADJUSTING YOUR TRAINING REGIMEN.

TOMORROW, ACT LIKE I'M NOT WITH YOU.

NO. THAT'S WHY YOU NEED TRAINING.

I-IS THIS SAFE?

OUTSIDE THE KUZUSUHARA TOWN RUINS

I'VE PASSED BY HERE LOTS OF TIMES.

BUT IT FEELS TOTALLY DIFFERENT WITHOUT ALPHA.

CHECK THE RUINS WITH BINOCU-LARS.

LOOKS LIKE...NO MONSTERS. ALL CLEAR.

RAS★H

CHECK THE MAP ON MY TERMINAL...

I TOOK THE SAFEST ROUTE I COULD FIND.

I PANT

I PANT

IF I MISS A LURKING ENEMY...

...MY LIFE IS OVER!

FWIP

DAMN! IT'S BEEN AT LEAST AN HOUR, AND I'VE GOTTEN NOWHERE.

WRECKED BUILDINGS, RUBBLE... THERE ARE TOO MANY DANGER ZONES!

THE RUINS ARE JUST THAT DANGEROUS WHEN I'M ON MY OWN.

THE SLUMS

BUSTLE

BUSTLE

GOOD WORK, AKIRA.

SCOUTING WILL GET MUCH EASIER WHEN YOU HAVE PROPER GEAR.

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

NO PAIN, NO GAIN.

I'VE DEPENDED ON ALPHA'S SUPPORT WAY MORE THAN I REALIZED.

SHE'S A HUGE HELP, BUT I CAN'T LET HER DO EVERYTHING FOR ME.

SAY, ALPHA, ISN'T THIS LOAD OF RELICS A BIT LARGER THAN USUAL?

YOU'RE FINALLY A REAL HUNTER, SO I UPPED IT A BIT.

WE'LL KEEP ADDING A LITTLE AT A TIME.

OH, OKAY.

GUESS WORKING MY WAY UP TO RANK TEN WAS WORTH IT.

AKIRA, WE'RE SURROUNDED.

GRIT

MOVE.

DASH

THUD THUD

THUD THUD THUD THUD

HE WENT THAT WAY!

CIRCLE AROUND!

CUT HIM OFF!

THUD THUD

RUMORS OF A SLUM KID CARRYING RELICS MUST HAVE REALLY APPEALED TO THEM.

SO TO THEM, I'M JUST A WALLET LYING ON THE STREET?

SKID

GIVEN THEIR NUMBERS, THEY MUST BE A SLUM GANG.

CRAP! NOW *GANGS* ARE AFTER ME?!

MAYBE I REALLY DID USE UP MY LUCK!

I DON'T WANNA TAKE THAT ANY LONGER THAN I HAVE TO!

KA KA KA KA

START WITH THE ARMED ONES.

...ATTACKING YOU DOESN'T PAY.

I AGREE. LET'S PICK THEM OFF ONE BY ONE UNTIL THEY LEARN...

BUT DO EXACTLY AS I SAY WHEN I DECIDE YOU'RE IN DANGER.

I KNOW. I'M IN NO RUSH TO DIE.

CAN I TAKE THEM?

WITH MY HELP? OF COURSE.

THEY BOTH WANT YOU DEAD FOR NO GOOD REASON.

I DON'T SEE MUCH DIFFERENCE.

BLAM

I FEEL LIKE I'VE ONLY KILLED ***PEOPLE*** SINCE I BECAME A HUNTER.

I THOUGHT I'D BE FIGHTING MORE MONSTERS IN THIS JOB.

LEAVE IT TO ME!

WHAT THE—?! HOW DOES HE KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP TO?!

WHO IS THAT KID?! I HEARD HE WAS JUST SOME PUNK!

ROLL

ROLL

THUNK

GIMME A BREA—!

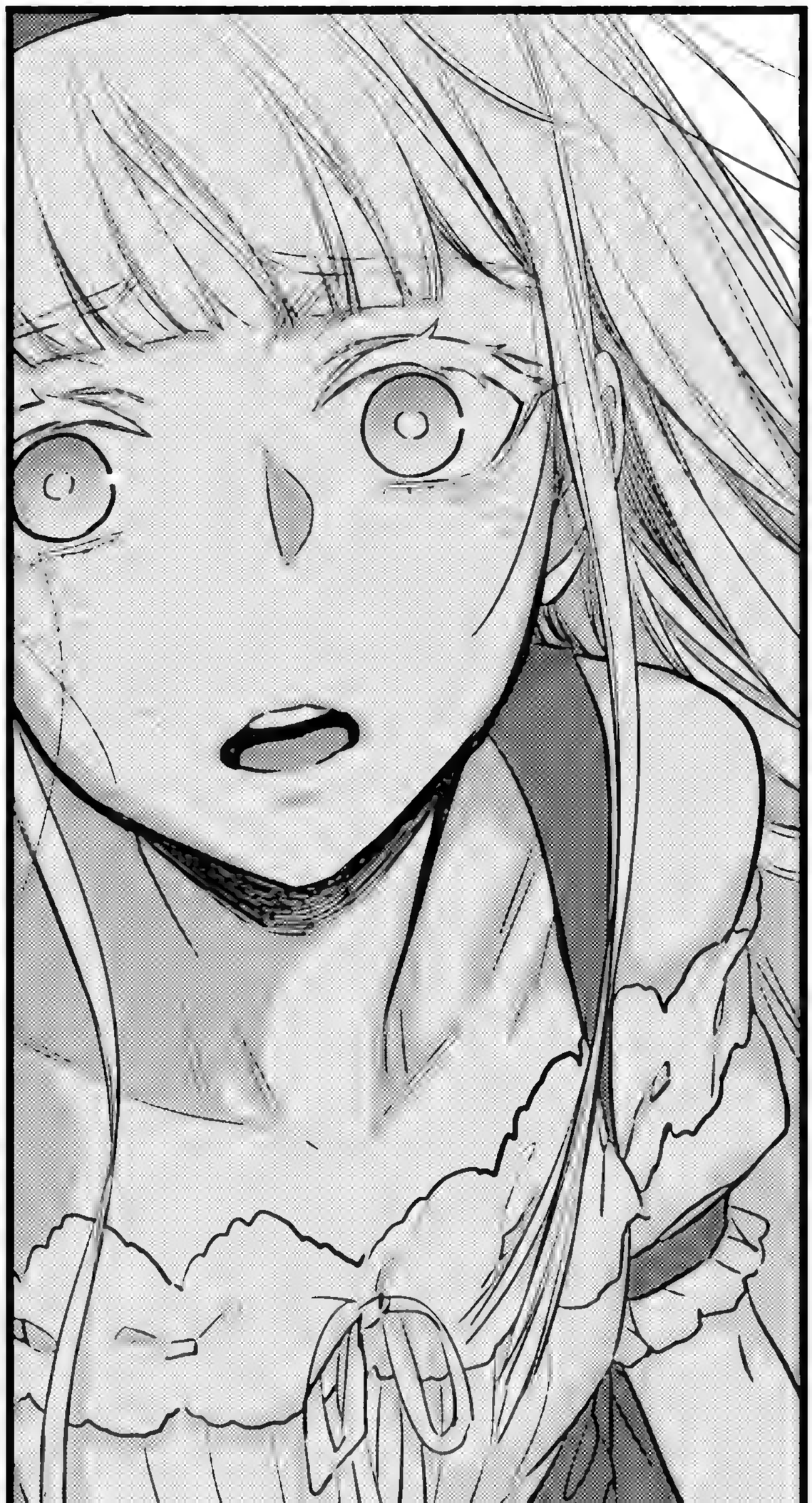
AAA-
AAH!

WAIT!

SPLAT

REBUILD WORLD

Chapter 8



ENOUGH. DON'T WASTE AMMO.

FWUMP

REINFORCE-MENTS WILL COME FROM THAT WAY NEXT.

DASH

BAM BAM

HELP M-!

AAA-AAH!

TMP TMP TMP TMP

DA TA TA T

SPARE ME, AND I'LL STEP DOWN AND MAKE YOU THE BOSS OF MY GANG!

TAP

TAP

WHAD-DAYA SAY?

SLURP SNACK

...EVERY GANG I KNOW WILL BE OUT FOR YOUR BLOOD.

I'M SYBERG— A BIG DEAL AROUND HERE. IF YOU KILL ME...

YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE ANY MORE THAN I DO, YEAH?

NO, I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

GRIIIN

SO
YOU
WILL.

KA-AM

SYBERG'S DEAD.

WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO OUR GANG?!

ARE YOU CRAZY?! THAT'S THE LEAST OF OUR WORRIES!

THAT HUNTER MIGHT COME BACK TO MOP UP STRAGGLERS!

WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?! HE MIGHT COME AFTER US IF WE TAKE SYBERG'S PET ALONG!

I'VE GOT PULL WITH ANOTHER GANG! LET'S GO!

I HAD N-NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT ATTACK!

SLAP

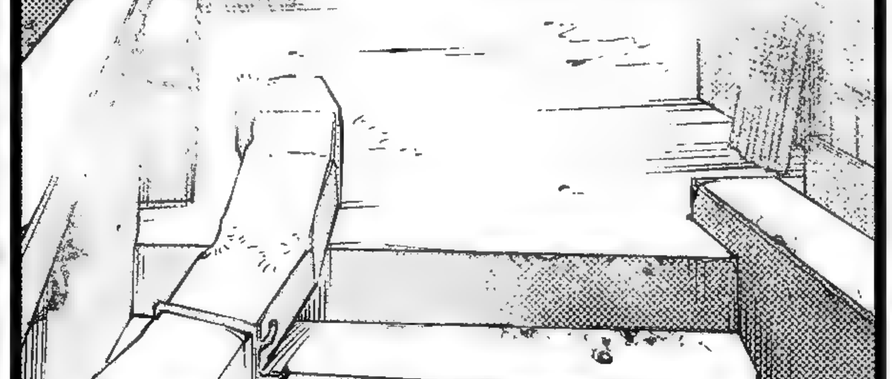
WAIT!

TAKE ME WITH YOU!

GO DIE AND LEAVE US ALONE!

AHAHAHA

+00+00+



ギュッ
SQUEEZE

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?
JUST BECAUSE I WAS IN SYBERG'S GANG, NO ONE WANTS ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME!

IT'S DO OR DIE NOW.
TIME TO RISK IT ALL.

YOU'LL BE TRAINING AGAINST VIRTUAL WEAPON DOGS TODAY.

I KNOW.

FOR REFERENCE, THOSE TWO WOMEN YOU RESCUED WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE WIPING OUT A PACK OF THEM.

THEY'RE THAT TOUGH?!

CAN NORMAL HUNTERS REALLY TAKE DOWN MONSTERS LIKE THAT NO PROBLEM?

I DO FEEL LIKE I'M IMPROV-ING...

...BUT I DOUBT I COULD KILL ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE FOR REAL.

AH, RIGHT.

FOCUS ON YOUR TRAINING FOR NOW.

WELL, IT WON'T BE SO HARD ONCE YOU SAVE UP AND BUY BETTER GEAR.

AGAIN?!

GRIT

YOU'RE BEING FOLLOWED AGAIN.

BY THE WAY, AKIRA.

FWISH

GO SEE FOR YOURSELF.

...

DON'T WORRY. I DOUBT SHE PLANS TO ATTACK YOU.

SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S JUST HESITATING TO STRIKE UP A CONVERSATION.

ヒック
JOLT

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

SHE WAS WITH THE GANG THAT ATTACKED YOU RECENTLY.

YOU SAW HER DURING THE FIREFIGHT, REMEMBER?

I...I'D LIKE TO D-DISCUSS...

DISCUSS WHAT?

BA-DUMP

WHAT DOES SOMEONE WHO TRIED TO KILL ME...

...HAVE TO TALK ABOUT?

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

ガブッ
ガブッ
ガブッ

SOB

OH DEAR.

IS THIS MY FAULT?

MUTTER

MUTTER

MUTTER

YOU'RE NOT LOOKING FOR TROUBLE EITHER, RIGHT?

ER... LISTEN, JUST CALM DOWN, OKAY? I'M NOT GONNA HURT YOU.

YOU KNOW, PEOPLE MIGHT THINK YOU'RE THREATENING A LITTLE GIRL.

CALM DOWN AND LET'S TALK. DIDN'T YOU WANT TO TELL ME SOME-THING?

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?

COME ON, DEEP BREATHS. RELAX.

COME ON!

DASH

くったり SLUMP

WHAT WAS *THAT* ABOUT?

SHIBUYA

SSH

I SUGGEST YOU ASK HER.

I CRIED MY EYES OUT.

NEGOTIATIONS HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED, AND I ALREADY BLEW IT.

STILL...

...HE TOOK ME BACK TO HIS HOTEL. DOES THAT MEAN WHAT I THINK?

I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM KILLING ME ON THE SPOT ANYMORE.

BUT HE'S LET HIS GUARD DOWN.

SQUK

I THINK.

THIS IS THE HARD PART, BUT I'LL PULL IT OFF.

FINE. IF IT WILL CONVINCE HIM...

...I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.

UM... ABOUT EARLIER. I'M...

CHEW CHEW CHEW

GRRGL

RMBL

I'M SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR SHOWER AND FOOD.

JUST AKIRA.

I HOPE WE CAN GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER, MR. AKIRA.

MY NAME IS SHERYL.

FIRST OF ALL, I'M AKIRA.

SO, UH...

I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.

SO, WHAT'S YOUR BUSINESS WITH ME?

I WANT YOU...

...TO BE OUR BOSS.

NO THANKS.

THIS TALK'S OVER. SORRY, BUT TRY SOMEONE ELSE.

W-WAIT!

I'LL MAKE IT WORTH YOUR WHILE!

THERE'S A REASON SO MANY OF YOU WORK WITH THEM!

A GANG CAN DO A LOT FOR A HUNTER!

IF YOU ACCEPT, THEN...

I CAN TELL HE MEANS IT.

ARGUING MORE WILL ONLY IRRITATE HIM.

IN THAT CASE...

...YOU CAN USE ME AS YOU LIKE. RIGHT NOW, IF YOU WANT.

ぎゅっ CLENCH

I MEAN, I'M SURE YOU THINK YOU'RE OFFERING A LOT, SINCE YOU'D BE PUTTING YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE IN THE WASTELAND, BUT-

HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT YOU'D JUST GET IN MY WAY, EVEN AS A MEAT SHIELD.

YOU DON'T LOOK THAT TOUGH.

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS.

OH, REALLY?

THEN I'M EVEN LESS INTER-ESTED.

AKIRA, I THINK SHERYL HAD SOME-THING MORE ***SEXUAL*** IN MIND.

NOT AS HOT AS ME, THOUGH.

THREE TIMES IS OVERKILL.

ARE YOU SURE? SHE'S CUTE, AND SOMEDAY SHE'LL BE HOTTER. NOT AS HOT AS ME, THOUGH.

NOT AS HOT AS ME, THOUGH.

ANYWAY, I WOULDN'T FEEL RIGHT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HER WHEN SHE'S DOWN LIKE THAT.

IT SEEMS LIKE A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ARRANGEMENT TO ME.

SO MY HARD WORK TO PROOF YOU AGAINST HONEY TRAPS PAID OFF?

I'VE ALREADY GOT MY HANDS FULL WITH YOU ALWAYS STRIPPING DOWN.

WHAT "HARD WORK"?

MEAT...

SHIELD?

WHAT FOR?

WELL, WHETHER YOU GET *HANDS-ON* WITH SHERYL OR NOT...

...YOU MIGHT WANT TO HELP HER OUT.

YOU GOT ATTACKED IN THE RUINS AND IN THE CITY, AND NOW YOU'RE IN THIS MESS.

BECAUSE GOOD DEEDS MIGHT BOOST YOUR LUCK. YOU TOLD ME THAT THE OTHER DAY, REMEMBER?

YOU'RE DEFINITELY SCRAPING THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL FOR GOOD LUCK.

LIDOOM

YEAH, BUT THAT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR ME TO TAKE CARE OF SHERYL.

SO WHY NOT REFILL IT WITH SOME GOOD CONDUCT?

I'D CALL THIS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY. WOULDN'T YOU?

?

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO WATCH OVER HER ALL HER LIFE.

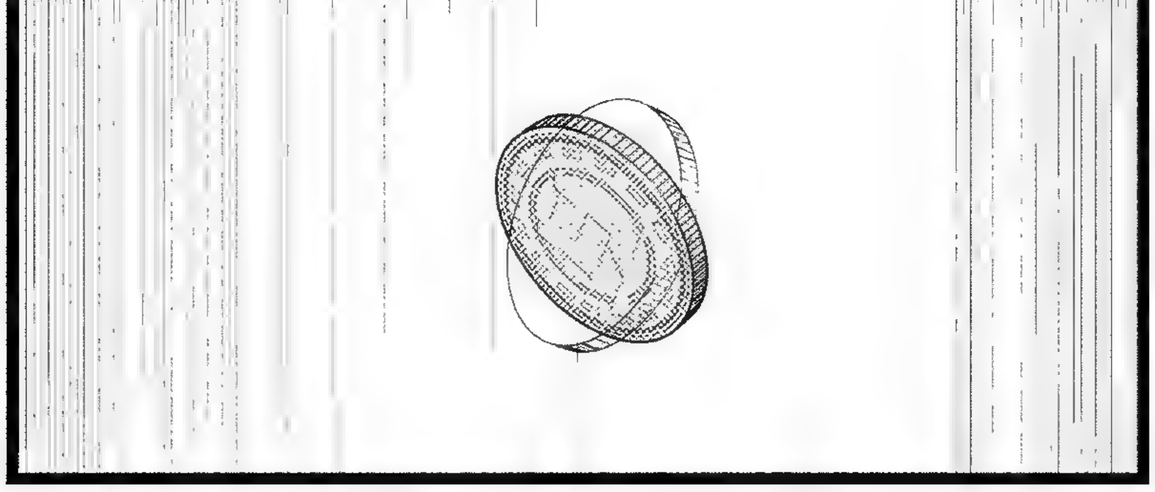
JUST HELP HER OUT A LITTLE BIT.

LUCK, HUH?

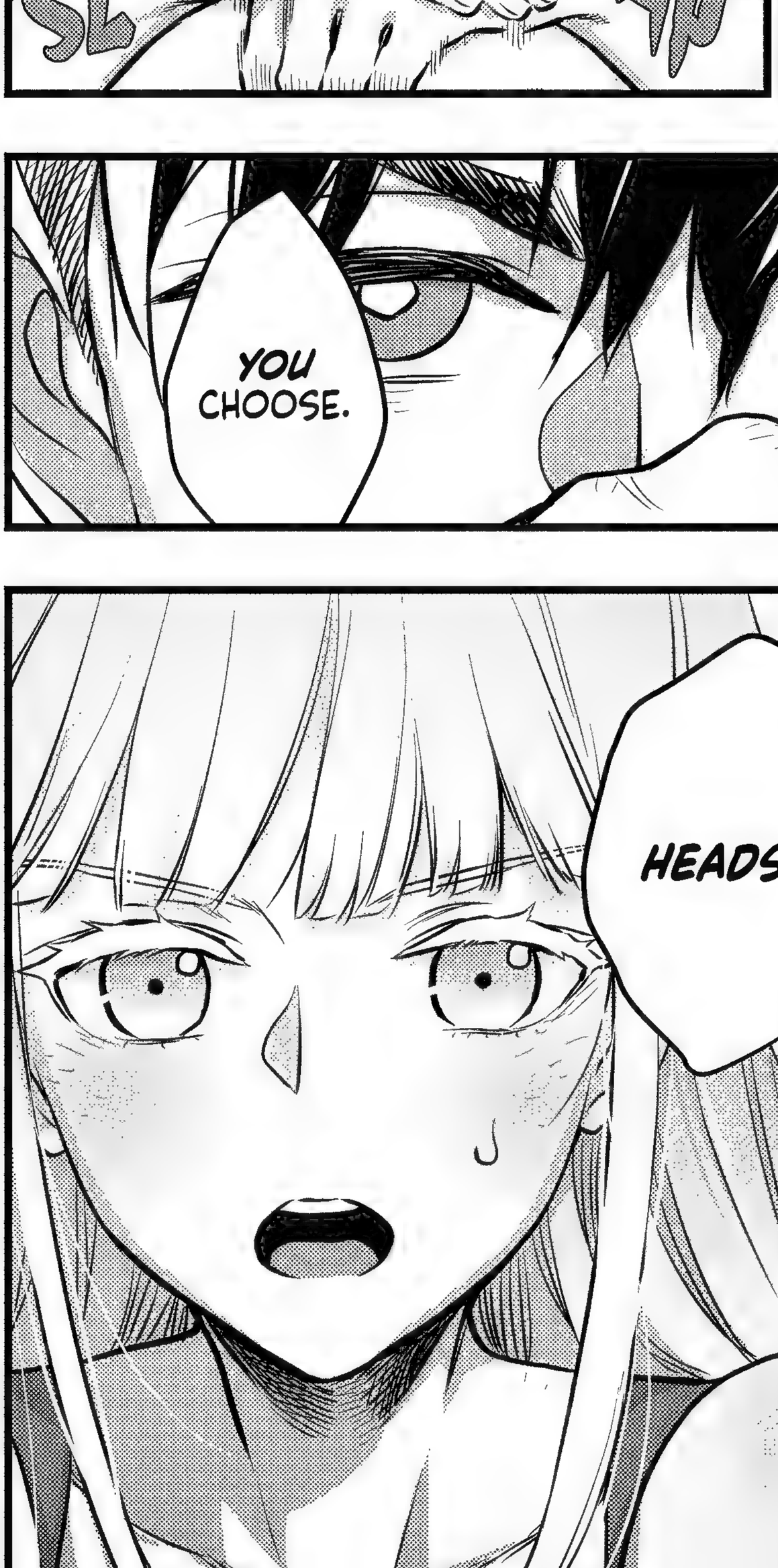
JUST LEND HER A HAND.

FOR LUCK.

SHERYL, SIT DOWN.

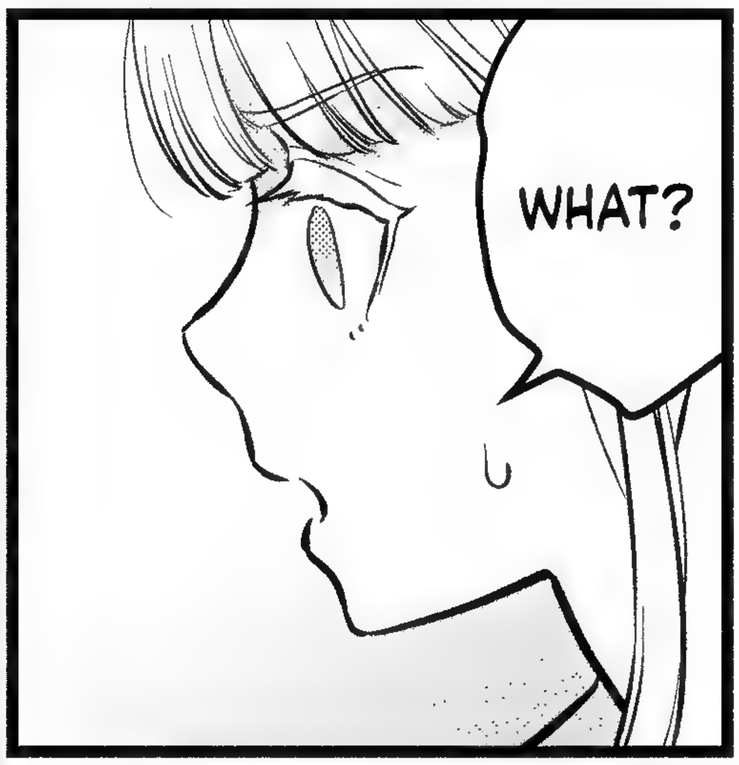


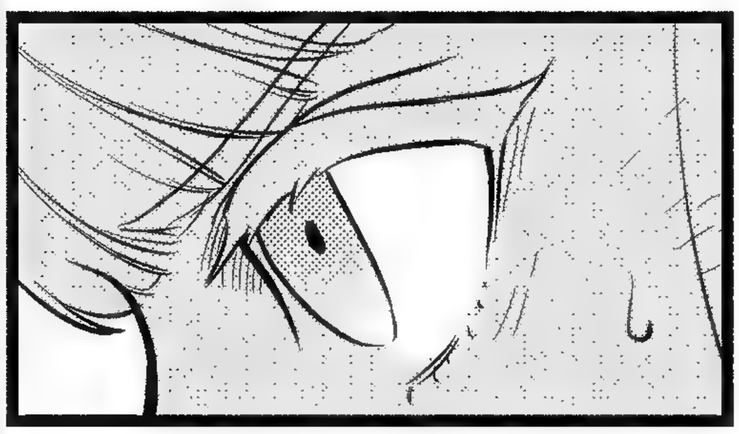
SLAP


SLAP

YOU CHOOSE.
HEADS OR TAILS?

HEADS.


WHAT?



SLP

?!

HEADS? TAILS? WHICH IS IT?

LIKE I SAID EARLIER...

...I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN RUNNING YOUR GANG.

BUT I'LL WORK WITH YOU, ON A FEW CONDITIONS.

FIRST, SHERYL, *YOU'LL* BE THE BOSS OF THE GANG.

ME, A GANG LEADER?!

BUT AKIRA DESTROYED SYBERG'S GANG. WITH HIS BACKING, I MIGHT PULL IT OFF.

HOW COULD I BE A BOSS?

I WON'T GET INVOLVED IN MANAGEMENT.

AND I'LL WORK ONLY WITH YOU.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

I UNDER-STAND. I ACCEPT YOUR TERMS.

I'VE GOT NO FUTURE IF I REFUSE.

I HAVE TO TRY.

ASK ME ANYTHING YOU WANT.

BUT IF I TELL YOU TO DROP IT, NEVER MENTION IT AGAIN.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT COIN TOSS?

I-IF I MAY...

R-RIGHT.

SO, WHAT IS IT?

DID I WIN MY GAMBLE?

OR DID I LOSE?

WELL...

IT *WAS* HEADS...

WASN'T IT?

DON'T ASK.

ALL RIGHT.

REBUILD WORLD

AND THAT COMPLETES OUR CIRCUIT AROUND SYBERG'S TURF.

BUT NOW THAT HE'S DEAD, IT'S UP FOR GRABS.

REALLY?

WON'T SOME OTHER GANG SEIZE HIS TURF OR BASE OR ANYTHING?

THEY WON'T CHARGE IN GUNS BLAZING.

NOBODY WANTS A NEEDLESS BLOODBATH.

Chapter 9

WELL, LOOK WHO'S ON A DATE TODAY.

SPLAT

YES WAY.

FEEL FREE TO ARGUE, BUT YOU'LL NEVER BEAT ME.

A DATE? NO WAY.

AND WHAT'S AN ABSOLUTE MUST ON A DATE? BUYING THE GIRL A PRESENT!

?

WHY'S HE GLARING AT ME?!

SLAM!

?!

I'M GLAD YOU SEE REASON.

FINE.

WHAT SHOULD I GET HER?

BEAM

ニヤリ

IF I TALKED BACK, YOU'D JUST KEEP TELLING ME WHY I SHOULD GET HER A GIFT UNTIL I CAVED.

LOOK キョロ

LET'S SEE. A GIFT...

LOOK キョロ

ON SECOND THOUGHT, NO.

GUNS!

THINK FOR YOURSELF. IF YOU PICK WRONG AND SHE GRIMACES AT YOU, YOU'LL STILL LEARN SOMETHING.

ALPHA, WHAT SHOULD I GET HER?

THAT WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH FOR ME TO HELP YOU OUT.

YOU, ER, NEED PROOF, RIGHT?

I'LL GIVE YOU SOME-THING YOU CAN SHOW PEOPLE.

FINE, BE THAT WAY. I'LL JUST ASK HER.

ANYTHING HERE CATCH YOUR EYE?

HUH?

URK!

SHOULDN'T YOU PICK A GIFT OUT YOURSELF?

IT WILL MEAN MORE THAT WAY.

ALL RIGHT.

HOW ABOUT SOME JEWELRY, THEN?

THAT'S A SURE SIGN THAT PEOPLE ARE CLOSE.

FINE.

BUT DON'T COMPLAIN IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT.

IF YOU WANT A SAY, NOW'S YOUR LAST CHANCE.

I KNEW A GUN WAS THE WRONG MOVE.

NO PROBLEM. STAY SAFE ON YOUR WAY HOME.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TODAY, AKIRA.

I HAVE A GOOD FEELING ABOUT OUR PARTNER-SHIP.

SURPRISE, SURPRISE.

I DIDN'T THINK HE KNEW HOW TO BE SO CONSID-ERATE.

...

AKIRA... I CAN'T GET A CLEAR READ ON HIM.

WELL, HE'LL JUST BRUSH ME OFF IF I ASK HIM, SO I MIGHT AS WELL LET IT GO.

AND I WONDER WHY HE STARES INTO SPACE SOMETIMES.

ALMOST LIKE THERE'S SOMEONE THERE...

HM? OH, WELL, WE'RE CLOSE BY.

AKIRA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

...

?

AND IT'S THE FIRST DAY, SO BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.

SYBERG'S HQ

THE BASE HAS BEEN PICKED CLEAN. THAT FIGURES.

TMP

TMP

SYBERG'S CHAIR...

HE USED TO LOUNGE IN IT TO SHOW WHO WAS IN CHARGE.

BUT FROM NOW ON, IT'S MINE.

THAT'S WHY I SPENT HALF A DAY WALKING AROUND THE SLUMS WITH HIM.

IF ANY SURVIVORS SAW ME WITH AKIRA...

...I'M SURE THEY'LL COME HERE TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

THEY'RE HERE!

IF AKIRA WAS MY FIRST GAMBLE...

BREATHE

BREATHE

BUT I SURVIVED! I WON! I CAN'T STOP NOW!

ROUND ONE WASN'T A TOTAL SUCCESS.

...THEN THIS IS MY SECOND.

STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP

ZAM

HELLO THERE.

WELCOME TO MY BASE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, *YOUR* BASE?

SCRATCH THAT—WHAT WERE YOU DOING WITH THAT BRAT IN THE FIRST PLACE?

AIN'T HE THE ONE WHO OFFED SYBERG?

I WAS WITH AKIRA BECAUSE I WORKED OUT A DEAL WITH HIM.

AKIRA? THAT THE BRAT'S NAME?

YES. HAS A LOVELY RING TO IT, RIGHT?

SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

FORGOT SOMETHING WHEN YOU *RAN AWAY?*

CUT THE CRAP! WHERE DO YOU GET OFF CALLING YOURSELF THE BOSS?!

SO NOW I'M THE BOSS HERE.

AKIRA KILLED SYBERG AND TOOK HIS GANG AS COMPENSATION FOR THE ATTACK.

BUT AKIRA HAS HUNTING TO DO AND A REPUTATION TO MAINTAIN.

SO IF ANYONE ASKS, I RUN THE GANG.

AND SINCE I GIVE THE ORDERS, THAT'S NOT AN EMPTY TITLE.

GET THE PICTURE?

WHO CARES ABOUT SYBERG?

THAT IDIOT TOOK ALL THOSE GUYS TO KILL ONE KID AND STILL ENDED UP DEAD.

HOW STUPID CAN YOU BE?

DON'T GIVE ME THAT!

WE WOULDN'T EVEN BE IN THIS MESS IF THAT BRAT HADN'T KILLED SYBERG!

HEY, SHERYL.

WATCH YOUR MOUTH.

I DON'T CARE HOW TOUGH THAT BRAT IS—YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN RIGHT NOW.

BANG

ARE YOU TRYING TO BE FUNNY?

EXCUSE ME?

STOP BLUFF-ING.

THAT BRAT WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR FOR YOU. NOTHING'S IN IT FOR HIM.

DO YOU THINK I HAVEN'T TOLD AKIRA ABOUT YOU?

NATURALLY, I ASKED HIM TO TERMINATE YOU ALL IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME.

I PREDICTED YOU'D COME HERE.

YES, THERE IS. LOOK, HE EVEN GAVE ME A PRESENT.

I'M AKIRA'S FAVORITE.

...

SLAM

SHUFFLE

SHUFFLE

HMPH!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

UNLESS YOU HAVE BUSINESS HERE, KINDLY LEAVE MY BASE.

...

AND YOU AGREE TO FOLLOW ME?

YOU HAVE TO ASK? WE WANT INTO YOUR GANG.

YEAH.

YOU'RE THE BOSS.

IN THAT CASE, I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU.

BUT LEAVE FOR TODAY.

I HAVE A LOT TO DO.

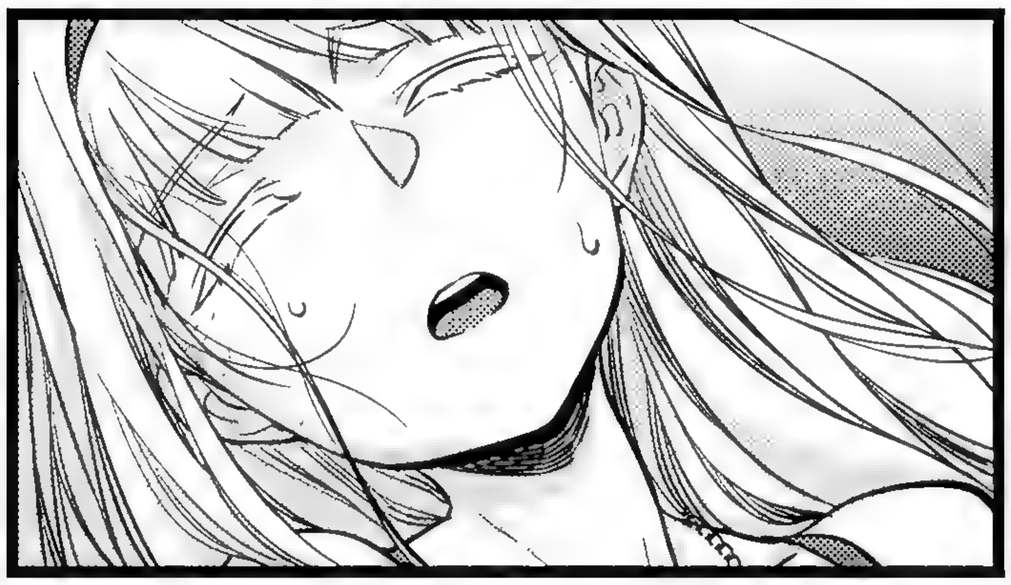
COME BACK HERE TOMORROW NIGHT.

I NEED TO SET THINGS UP SO I CAN STAY ALIVE WITHOUT HIM.

AKIRA AGREED TO BE MY PATRON, BUT HE CAN'T BE AROUND ALL THE TIME.

JUST THE FIRST STEP, AND I'VE ALREADY RISKED DEATH.

AT LEAST I'VE DONE EVERYTHING I CAN.



THAT WAS CLOSE!

HUFF...

HUFF

THAT WAS SO CLOSE!

I COULD HAVE DIED BACK THERE! BUT I SURVIVED!

WHEW...

ヒュゥゥゥ
WHOOSH

LOOKING BACK, I'VE ALWAYS FOUND IT EASY TO GET INTO PEOPLE'S GOOD GRACES.

I THINK I'VE LIVED A RELATIVELY SHELTERED LIFE BY SLUM STANDARDS.

RATTLE
カタ
カタ
RATTLE

I FELT LIKE A GONER BACK THERE.

BUT THAT WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO WHEN AKIRA POINTED HIS GUN AT ME.

ゴォォォォ
OOWOO

I WAS POISED TO EARN A DECENT POSITION IN SYBERG'S GANG.

UNTIL AKIRA WRECKED ALL THAT.

ゴゴゴゴ

WE'LL HAVE IT MADE IF WE HAND THIS PLACE OVER TO SHIJIMA.

LIKE HELL I'M LETTING SOME PIPSQUEAK TAKE IT FROM US.

HEY, ARE WE REALLY GONNA DO THIS?

HUNTERS DON'T KEEP PROMISES TO BROKE KIDS.

NAW, SHE WAS BLUFFING.

BUT IF SHERYL'S TELLING THE TRUTH, WE'RE GONNA BE IN TROUBLE!

OKAY! LET'S MOVE!

KA

TRA

HTA

K

Y-
YOU'RE...

EEP!

THUNK

DON'T TOUCH SHERYL.

GOT THAT?

WH-WHATEVER YOU SAY.

I'''TMP

I CAN'T GUARD SHERYL ALL THE TIME.

THAT SHOULD SCARE PEOPLE INTO THINKING TWICE ABOUT ATTACKING HER.

YEAH.

ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULDN'T KILL THEM ALL?

IF YOU'RE FINE WITH THAT, SO AM I.

NOW, LET'S GO HOME.

THE REST COMES DOWN TO HER LUCK.

GOOD MORNING, AKIRA.

I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS OUR PLANS, SO I WAS HOPING YOU'D VISIT MY BASE TONIGHT.

R-RIGHT.

MORNING. WHAT DO YOU NEED THIS EARLY?

I'M HEADED TO THE RUINS, SO HURRY.

OH, BY THE WAY.

THIS MORNING, I FOUND DEAD BODIES LYING IN FRONT OF MY BASE.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

OH, OKAY. I'LL DROP BY IF I CAN.

AH.

WELL, BYE.

OH, I JUST GOT A BIT WORRIED BECAUSE THERE WERE SO MANY OF THEM.

SO? THAT'S PAR FOR THE COURSE IN THE SLUMS.

TAKE CARE!

HE'S A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

HOW CAN I WIN MY WAY INTO HIS HEART?

SO HE DIDN'T KILL THEM?

EITHER WAY, I CAN'T BELIEVE MY BEST SMILE DIDN'T GET A REACTION.

TIME FOR MY NEXT MOVE.

SHIZUKA'S BECOME A FAMILIAR FACE, HUH?

NOT REALLY. I JUST BUY AMMO FROM HER.

GOOD CALL.

LET'S SWING BY CARTRIDGE FREAK BEFORE WE HIT THE RUINS.

RATATATA
タタタタ

VROOOOSH

TA TA TA TA TA TA

SHUT UP! YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO WE COULDN'T AFFORD IT!

THIS IS WHY I TOLD YOU TO HIRE BETTER SECURITY!

TATA TA

To Be Continued in Volume 3

Rebuild World

Glossary

Telepathy

Any method of communicating and exchanging information without sound waves, as if mind-to-mind. Most people require mind-reading computers to use telepathy, but with proper training, Old Domain Users can wield more advanced forms of mental communication even without technological aids.

Nanomachine-Augmented Individuals

People who use nanomachines to enhance their physical strength. They are cyborgs at the cellular level and can obtain extraordinary powers while maintaining their human appearance. However, as most cannot create new nanomachines within their bodies, they must resupply regularly.

Colorless Fog

A phenomenon in the East that is triggered by some substance in the air. At high densities, it adversely affects vision, communications, scanners, the power and range of firearms, and more. The Fog is thought to be a product of dispersed Old World nanomachines, but its exact nature remains unknown.

Hunter Office

The organization that oversees all hunters in the East. The Office performs many services, including registering hunters, connecting them with clients, and buying and selling relics.

Hunter Rank

A numerical evaluation that the Hunter Office assigns to each hunter. A higher rank indicates greater trust. Hunter rank reflects overall achievement, including monsters killed and quantity of relics sold to exchanges. High-ranking hunters receive preferential treatment from the Office and from many corporations.

I'M SHIZUKA, THE MANAGER.

THIS IS CARTRIDGE FREAK, A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR HUNTERS.

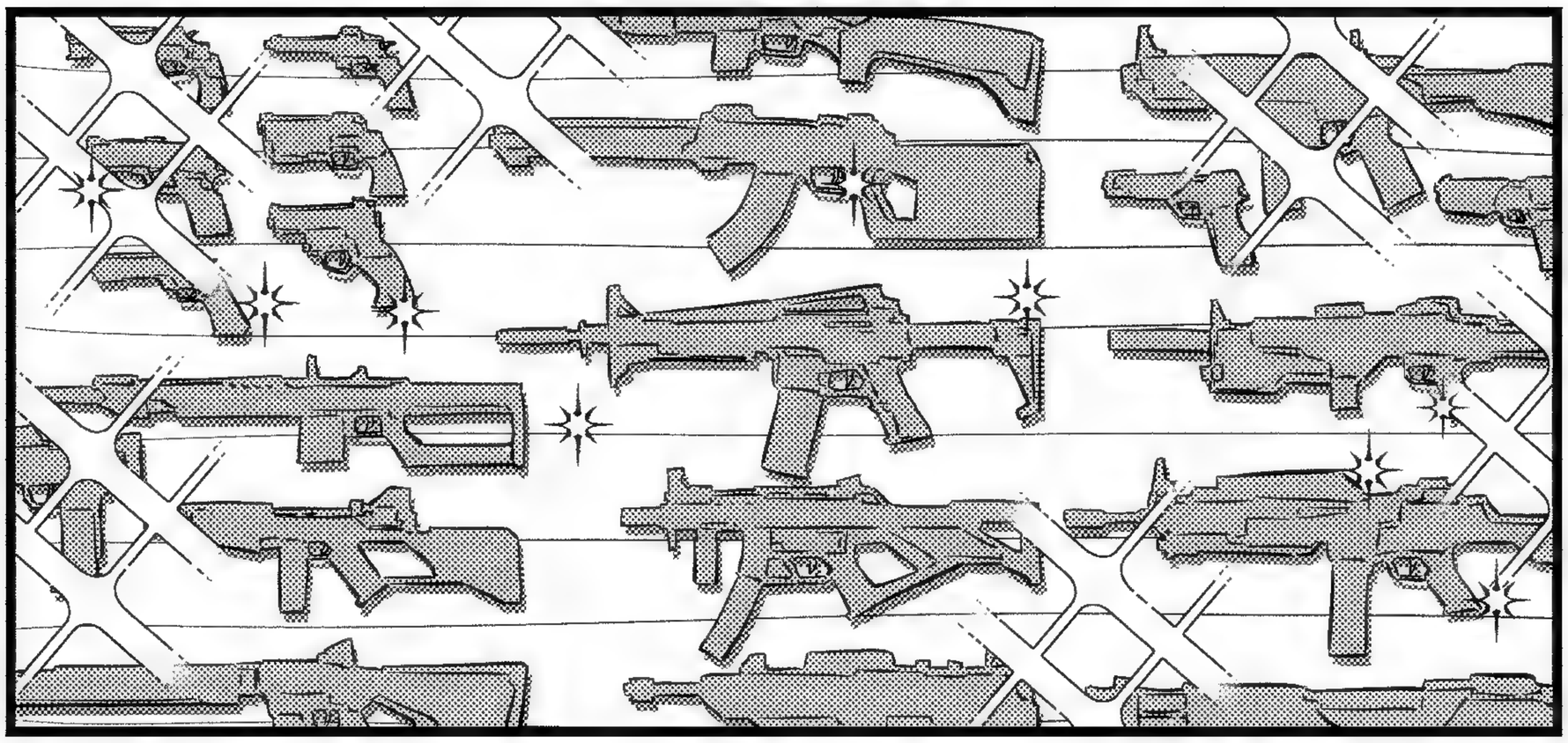
I MOSTLY SELL GUNS AND AMMO.

I'LL PUT THE **AAH** HERE.

HMM, LOOKS A LITTLE OFF BALANCE.

MAYBE IT WOULD LOOK BETTER OVER HERE.

THOUGH THIS SPOT IS A PER-FECT FIT FOR THE **CWH**.

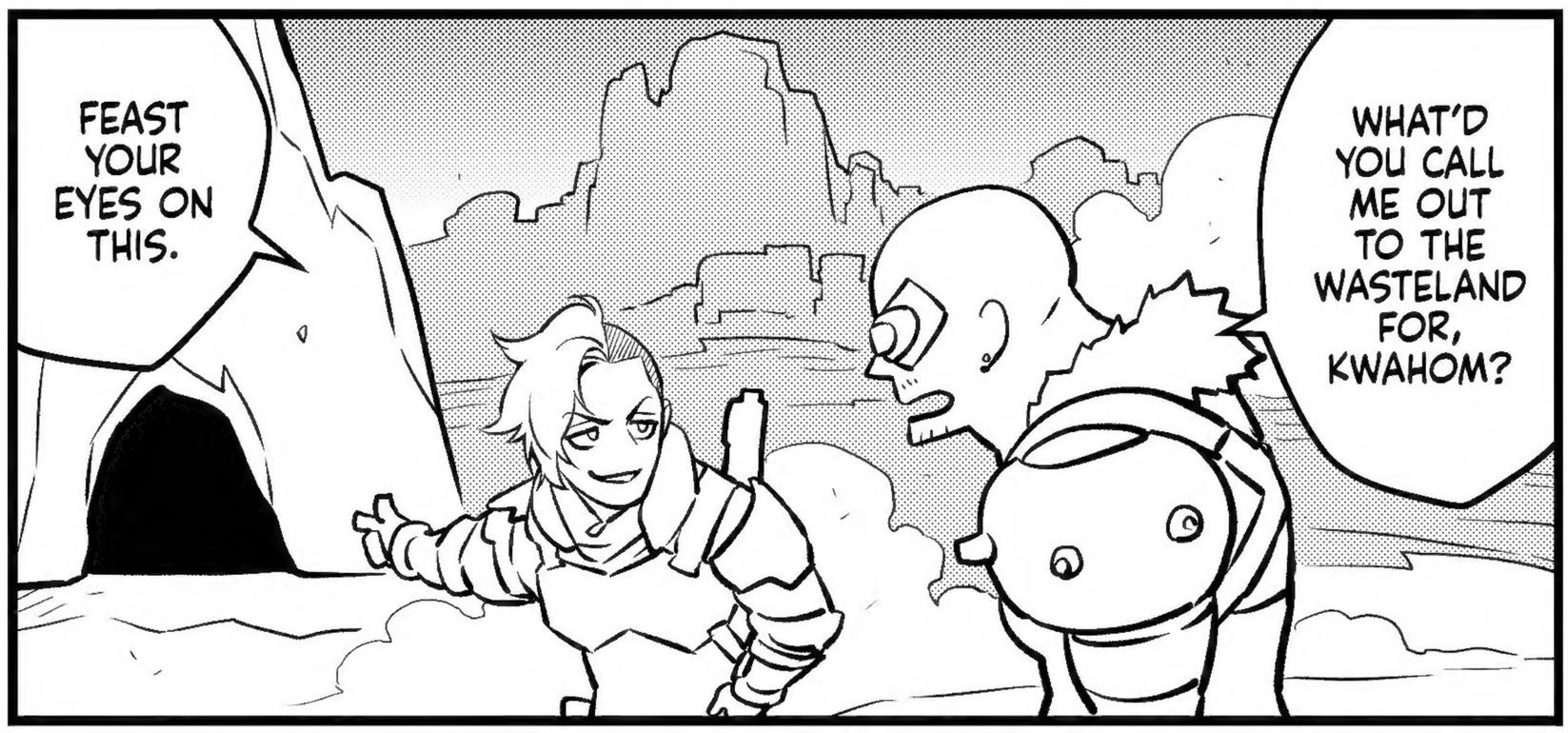


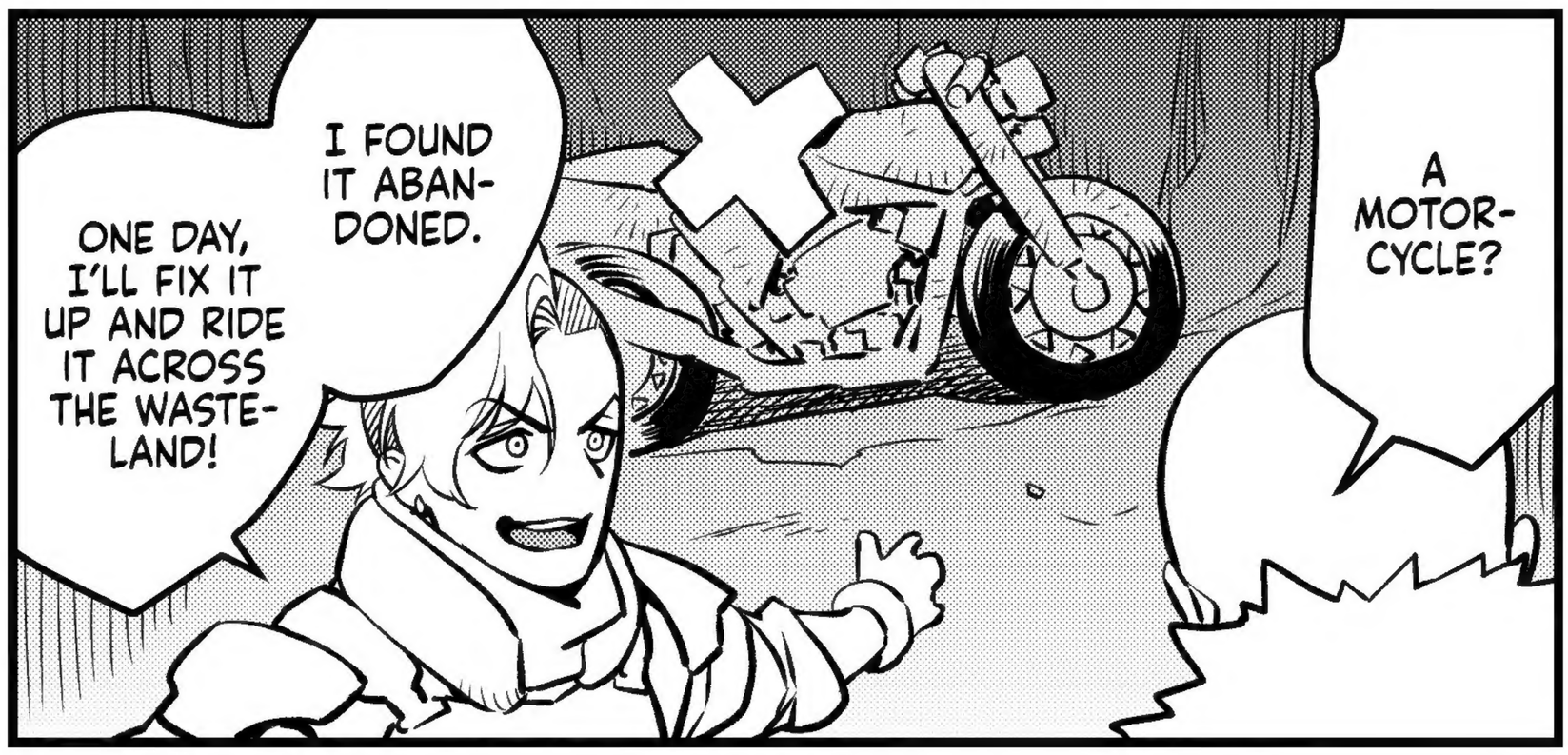
I CAN'T CLAIM BUSINESS IS BOOMING, BUT THANKS TO MY LOYAL CUSTOMERS, MY DOORS WILL STAY OPEN ANOTHER DAY!

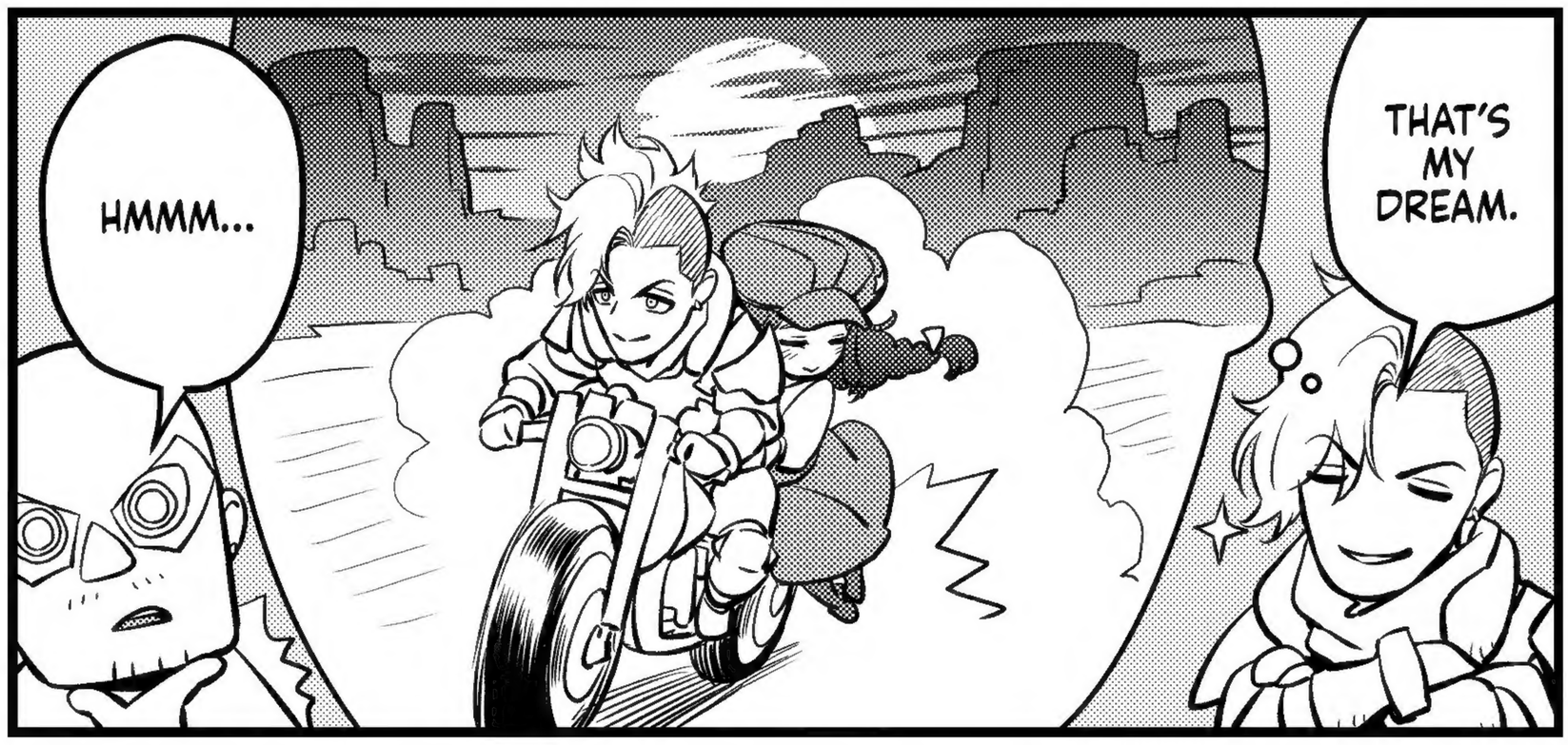
THIS IS THE BEST PLACE FOR IT AFTER ALL.

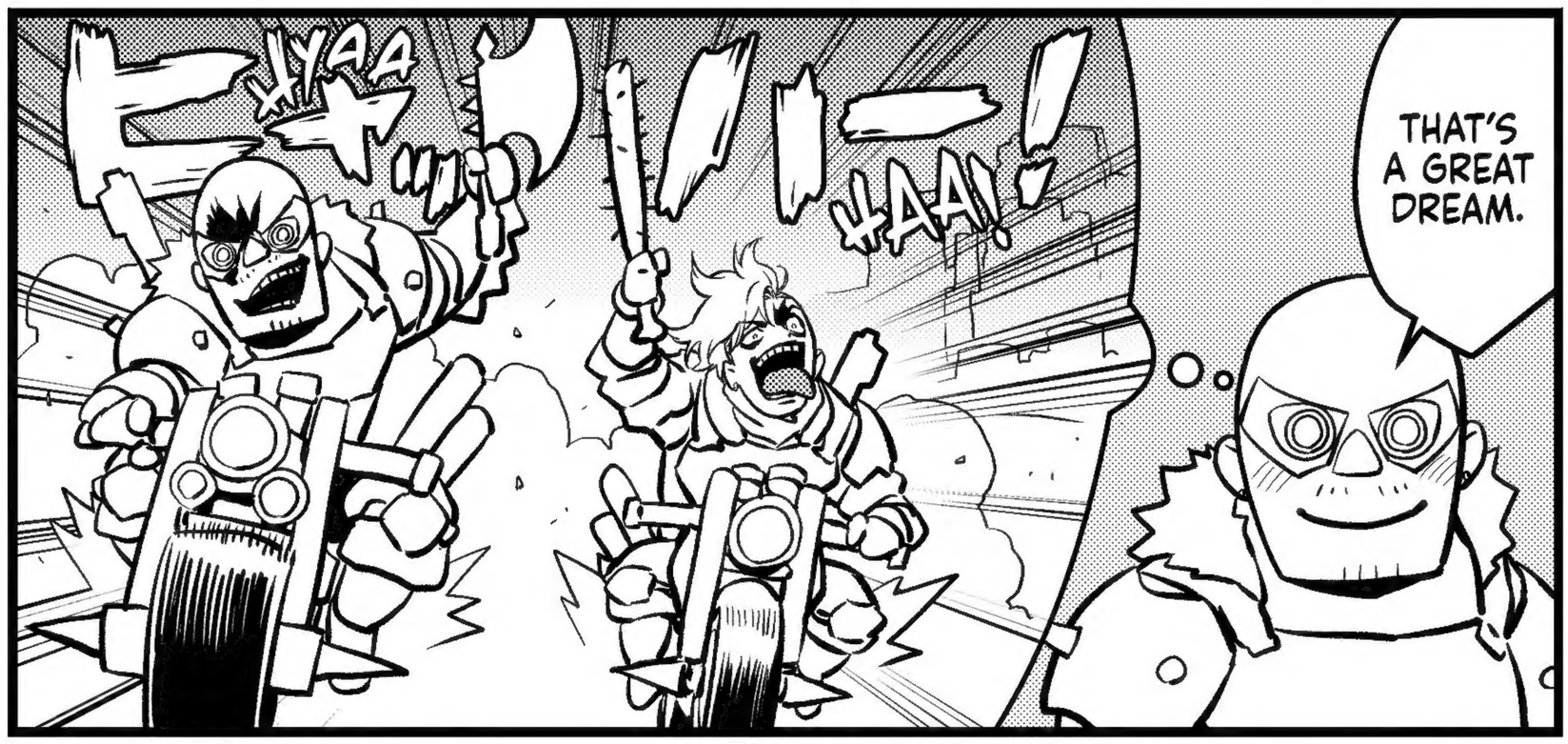
EVEN HUNTERS WHO DRIVE TANKS INTO BATTLE SOMETIMES CARRY AN **AAH** FOR GOOD LUCK.
IT'S AFFORDABLE, DURABLE, AND RELIABLE, SO IT HAS A LOT OF FANS.
THE **AAH** IS A LEGENDARY RIFLE WITH A HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY.
...
EVERYTHING SHIZUKA SAYS IS FASCINATING. JUST LISTENING TO HER IS SO MUCH FUN.
BUT TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS GAME.
USING AKIRA'S THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE TO WIN HIM OVER? NOT BAD, SHIZUKA.
?
NO, THANKS.
SCOOP!
HEAR ALL ABOUT IT!
SHOCKING NEWS! **AAH** MANUFACTURERS STUCK IN SECRET LOVE TRIANGLE!
HEY, AKIRA, SPEAKING OF THE **AAH**...

Motorcycles

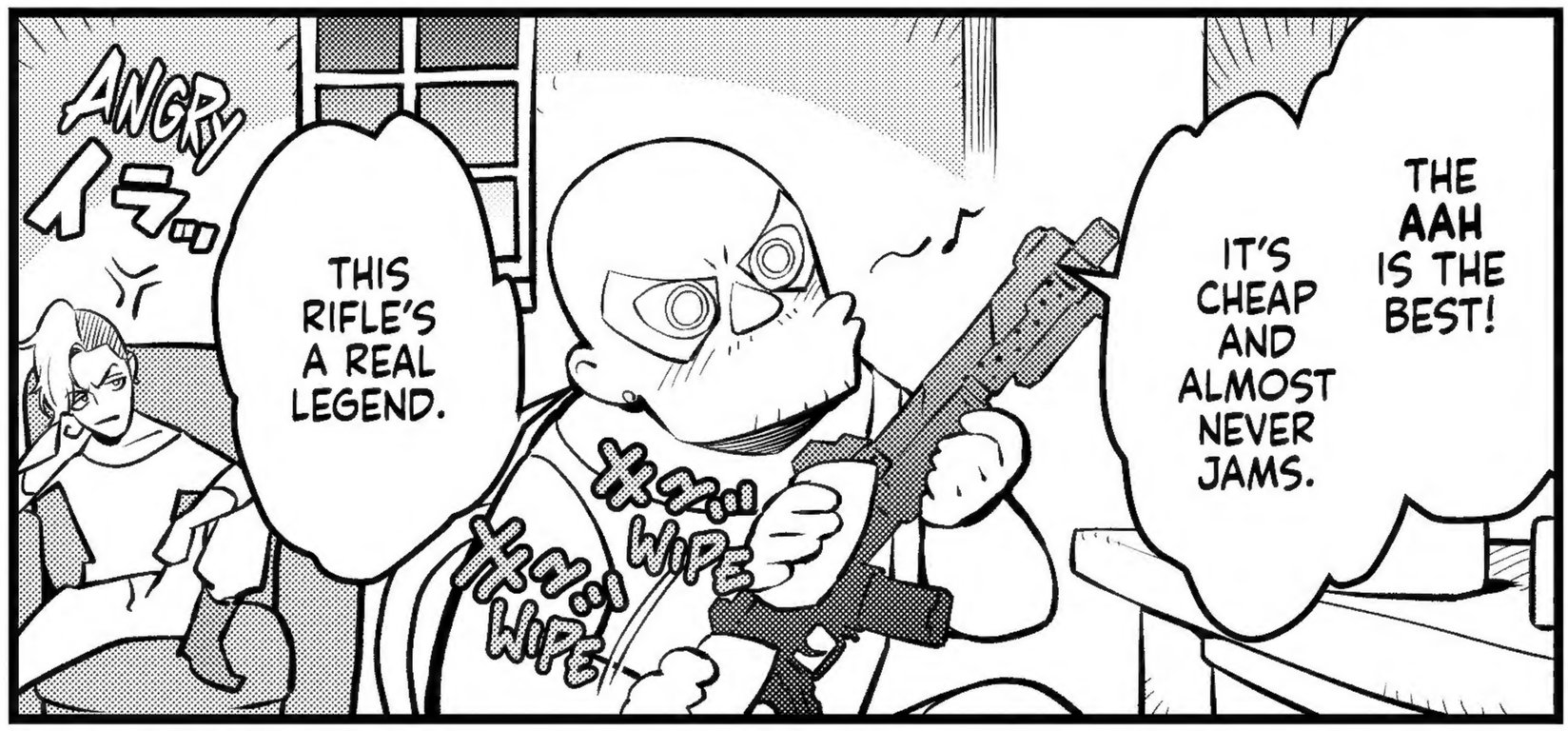


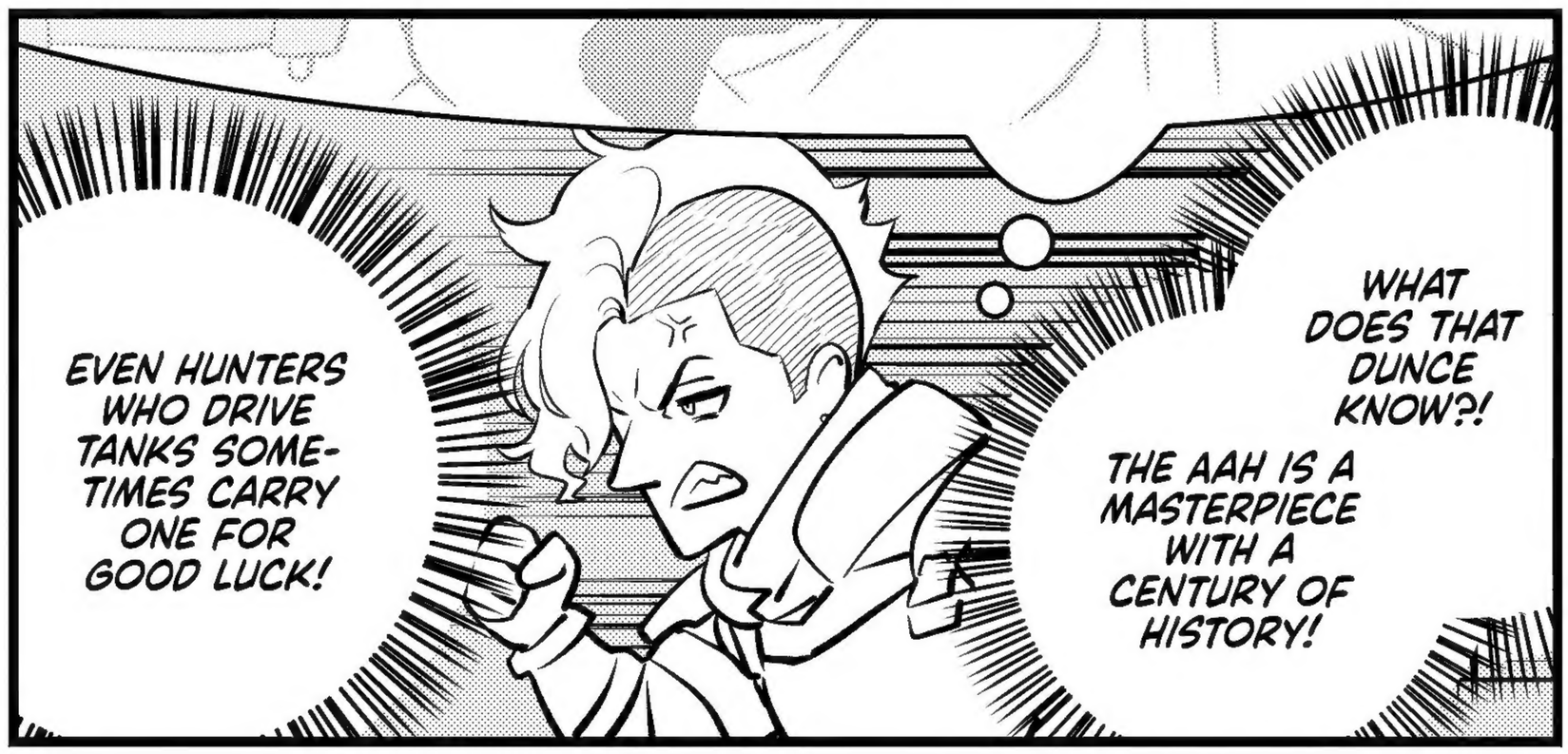


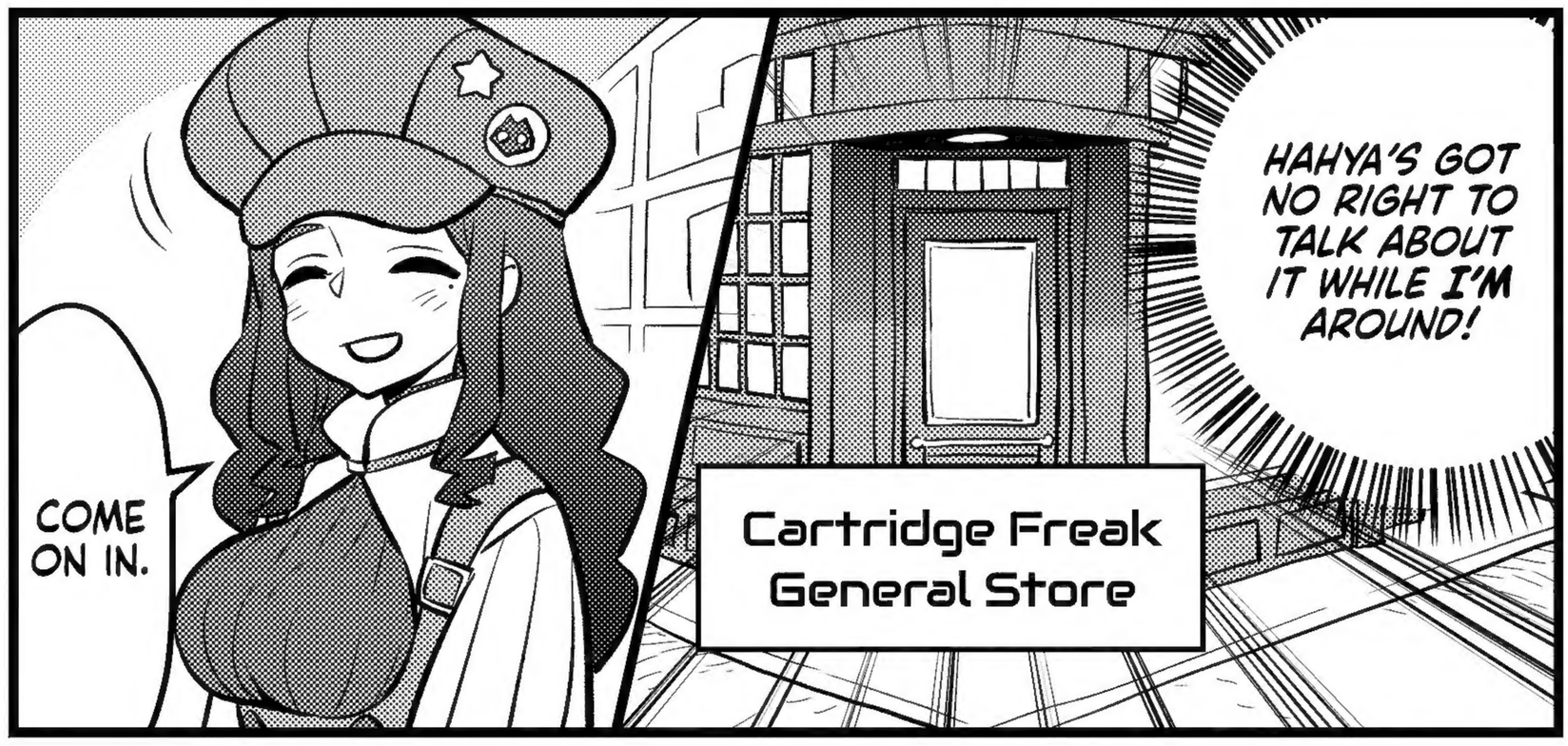


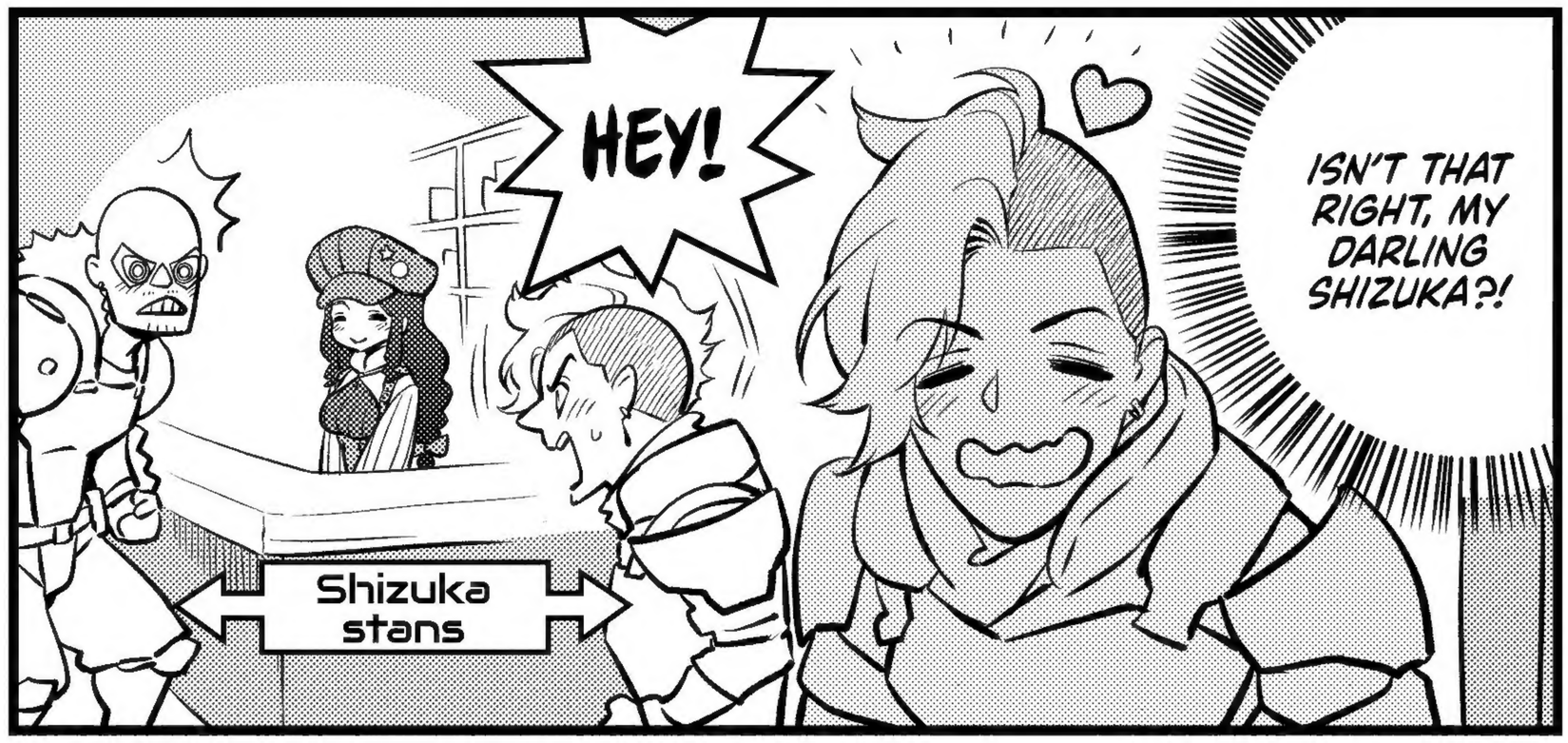


AAH Lovers


ANGRY
THIS RIFLE'S A REAL LEGEND.
WIPE
WIPE
IT'S CHEAP AND ALMOST NEVER JAMS.
THE AAH IS THE BEST!


EVEN HUNTERS WHO DRIVE TANKS SOME-TIMES CARRY ONE FOR GOOD LUCK!
WHAT DOES THAT DUNCE KNOW?!
THE AAH IS A MASTERPIECE WITH A CENTURY OF HISTORY!


COME ON IN.
Cartridge Freak General Store
HAHYA'S GOT NO RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT IT WHILE I'M AROUND!


HEY!
Shizuka stans
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MY DARLING SHIZUKA?!

REBUILD WORLD Vol. 2
by Kirihito Ayamura (Manga), Nahuse (Original Work), Gin (Character Designer), yish (Environmental Artist), cell (Mechanical Designer)

Translated by William Varteresian
Edited by NegativePrimes
Lettered by Vadim K.

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

REBUILD WORLD VOL. 2
© Kirihito Ayamura 2020 ©Nahuse 2020

First published in Japan in 2020 by KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo.
English translation rights arranged with KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo.

All rights reserved. In accordance with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, the scanning, uploading, and electronic sharing of any part of this book without the permission of the publisher is unlawful piracy and theft of the author's intellectual property.

Find more books like this one at www.j-novel.club!

President and Publisher: Samuel Pinansky
Manga Line Manager: J. Collis
Managing Translator: Kristi Fernandez
Managing Editor: Regan Durand
Marketing Manager: Stephanie Hii
Project Manager: Philip Reuben

ISBN: 978-1-7183-1741-3
Digital Edition 1.0